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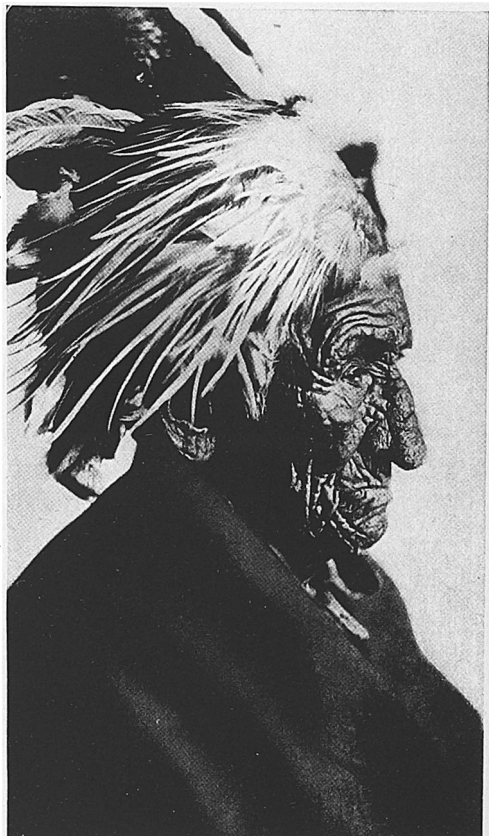
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Old John Smith.

## "OLD JOHN SMITH"

"I remember when the stars used to fall," said "Old John Smith." His Indian name is Ga-be-nah-quor-wence, meaning "Little Wrinkled Skin." He says he is 131 years old and is the oldest living American. He is the hero of many battles, and tells of having killed two men with one shot. He has had nine wives. "The third one," he said, "was good cook." When asked about his war feathers, he said, "Since I cut my hair I like white clothes." Asked what he thought of Indian beadwork, he said, "It was better when we used to play with it." Until three years ago he lived in his tepee and slept on the ground. He still refuses a bed and prefers the floor. He smokes "Kilikonick" incessantly. Last winter, in a

blinding snow storm, he was hit by a freight train. They took him to the hospital, where he refused "white man's bed" until another Indian first got in it. In a few weeks he was well again. When asked for his autograph, he readily wrote this:

But when asked for another, he wrote this: He dislikes the automobile and won't ride in one. "Too much top over," he says. When asked what he liked best, he quickly replied, "Turtle"; but then added, "I have no teeth in twenty years; give me white rice and doughnuts."